

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : Noriyuki TANI et al.

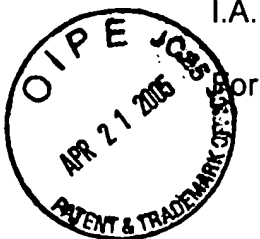
Group Art Unit : Not Yet Assigned

Appl. No. : 10/521,815

(U.S. National Stage of PCT/JP2003/009887)

Examiner : Not Yet Assigned

I.A. Filed : August 4, 2003

: SUBSTRATE TRANSFER APPARATUS FOR COMPONENT
MOUNTING MACHINE

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
Customer Service Window, Mail Stop AMENDMENT
Randolph Building
401 Dulany Street
Alexandria, VA 22314

Sir :

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. §1.56 and §§1.97-1.98, Applicants hereby bring the following information to the attention of the Examiner in charge of the above-identified application, which includes information cited and discussed in the International Search Report, and the International Preliminary Examination Report issued in connection with International Patent Application No. PCT/JP2003/009887, of which the present application is the U.S. National Stage Application. Copies of the International Search Report (in English) and the International Preliminary Examination Report were enclosed with the papers when entering the National Stage on January 21, 2005. The Examiner is invited to review these materials to inspect the relevance indicated during international examination with respect to the documents cited

therein. The following is a list of the documents cited in the above-noted documents:

Japanese Laid-Open Patent Publication No. 2000-118678, together with an English language abstract of the same;

U.S. Patent No. 6,405,851;

German Patent No. 94 09 434; and

Japanese Laid-Open Patent Publication No. 2000-022398, together with an English Language abstract of the same.

Further, Applicants call the following document to the Examiner's attention:

U.S. Patent Application No. 10/451,637 to Satoshi NONAKA et al., which was filed on July 10, 2003.

Further to 37 C.F.R. §1.98 (a)(2)(ii), a copy of the U.S. patent is not enclosed herewith. However, if a copy is needed, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned.

Further to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office's decision to waive the requirement under 37 C.F.R. §1.98 (a)(2)(iii) if the U.S. patent application was filed after June 30, 2003, a copy of the U.S. patent application is not enclosed herewith. However, if a copy is needed, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned.

Except for the U.S. Patent and the U.S. Patent Application, Copies of the above-noted documents are enclosed together with a duly completed Form PTO-1449. The Examiner is accordingly requested to consider each of these

documents, and to make them of record in this application by initialing in the appropriate spaces on the Form PTO-1449. Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner include a copy of the initialed Form PTO-1449 with the next communication from the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office.

Applicants note that an Office Action on the merits has not issued in the present application, and thus no fee is believed necessary to ensure consideration of the submitted material.

Should there be any questions, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number.

Respectfully Submitted,
Noriyuki TANI et al.

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April 21, 2005
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